

Applicant : Gary Gomringer et al.
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously presented) A stent comprising:
a stent body defining a first hole;
a washer adjacent to the stent body, the washer defining a second hole; and
a rivet extending into the first and second holes.

23. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 22, wherein the rivet is more radiopaque than the stent body.

24. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 22, wherein the rivet comprises a first end and a shaft, the first end having a diameter greater than a diameter of the shaft.

25. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 22, wherein the rivet comprises a material selected from the group consisting of gold, osmium, palladium, platinum, rhenium, tantalum, and tungsten.

26. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 22, wherein the stent body includes a strut, expandable member, or backbone defining the hole.

27. (Currently amended) A stent comprising:
a stent body defining a hole; and

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a radiopaque rivet having a portion extending into the hole, the rivet including a shaft with a diameter that is smaller than a diameter of the hole, wherein the shaft has a length of from 0.004 inch to 0.007 inch.

28. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 27, wherein the rivet comprises a material selected from the group consisting of gold, osmium, palladium, platinum, rhenium, tantalum, and tungsten.

29. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 27, wherein the stent body includes a strut, expandable member, or backbone defining the hole.

30. (Withdrawn) A method of making a stent, comprising:
inserting a rivet into a hole defined by a stent body, the rivet comprising a first end and a shaft, the first end having a diameter greater than a diameter of the shaft; and
increasing a diameter of an end of the rivet.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, wherein the rivet is inserted into the hole such that the first end of the rivet faces an interior surface of the stent device.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, wherein the rivet is inserted into the hole such that the first end of the rivet faces an exterior surface of the stent device.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, further comprising compressing the rivet into the hole.

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, further comprising forming a second end on the rivet, the second end having a diameter greater than a diameter of the shaft.

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35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, wherein the first end of the rivet is bulbous.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, wherein the first end of the rivet is tapered.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, wherein the hole has a diameter that is greater than a diameter of the rivet shaft.

38. (Withdrawn) A method of making a stent, comprising inserting a radiopaque rivet into a hole defined by a stent body, the rivet including a shaft with a diameter that is smaller than a diameter of the hole.

39. (Withdrawn) A method of making a stent, comprising inserting a rivet into a first hole defined by a washer and a second hole defined by a stent body adjacent to the washer.

40. (New) The stent of claim 22, wherein the rivet includes a shaft with a length of from 0.004 inch to 0.007 inch.

41. (New) The stent of claim 22, wherein the rivet includes a first end with a diameter of from 0.0038 inch to 0.0058 inch.

42. (New) The stent of claim 22, wherein the first hole has a diameter of from 0.0035 inch to 0.0055 inch.

43. (New) A stent comprising:
a stent body defining a hole; and

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a radiopaque rivet having a portion extending into the hole, the rivet including a shaft with a diameter that is smaller than a diameter of the hole, and a first end with a diameter of from 0.0038 inch to 0.0058 inch.

44. (New) The stent of claim 43, wherein the rivet is more radiopaque than the stent body.

45. (New) The stent of claim 43, wherein the first end has a diameter greater than a diameter of the shaft.

46. (New) The stent of claim 43, wherein the rivet comprises a material selected from the group consisting of gold, osmium, palladium, platinum, rhodium, tantalum, and tungsten.

47. (New) The stent of claim 43, wherein the stent body includes a strut, expandable member, or backbone defining the hole.